

ONLY FAIR PROFIT

City Engineer Talks of Morrison-Street Bridge.

DENIES EXCESSIVE GAINS

W. C. Elliott Declares Expert Bihler is Mistaken in Saying That \$15,000 Was Made in Substituting Steel Stringers.

"F. M. Butler is right in the stand he has taken on the bridge question," said City Engineer Elliott in an interview for The Oregonian yesterday.

"In order that you may grasp the gist of my remarks," continued Mr. Elliott, "I shall review the whole proposition, of course, the great bone of contention is a disagreement of the figures of Mr. Bihler and Mr. Butler. As far as Mr. Howell is concerned, I am convinced that he is being taken advantage of by some engineer who sees that Mr. Howell is dabbling with something of which he knows absolutely nothing."

"When the proposal for the Morrison-street bridge came up, a number of bids were received ranging from \$277,227 to something over \$400,000. The appropriation for the building of the bridge, but as you know the Pacific Construction Company's bid of \$281,345 was accepted."

"This company, along with the Puget Sound Bridge & Dredging Company, submitted several propositions, inviting in price, but they did not conform to the requirements of the specifications I had drawn up for the city."

"Messrs. Bihler and Holmes, as consulting engineers, and myself carefully studied the respective proposals and made our report to the Executive Board."

"How the Contract Was Let."

"In this report, we found that all the bids under that of the Pacific Construction Company of \$281,345 and including the more reasonable proposals of that company, were not desirable, inasmuch as the distribution of loads, that is to say, the dead and live loads, was of such nature as to make the bridge construction of a very unstable nature. The figures for the distribution of loads were altogether inadequate, and in some instances only a few supports were provided for where many more were absolutely necessary. In addition to these faults, there were other methods of cheapening the construction resorted to, in fact, to such extent that the consulting engineers and myself were forced to pass the bids to the Board without recommendation."

"Regarding the accepted proposal of the Pacific Construction Company, the plans conformed to the city's specifications in every particular. In some details the proposal was even better than the specifications. Robert Wakefield, exclusive of his other proposals, submitted a bid for the construction of the bridge, accompanied by plans which were identical with those of the Pacific Construction Company. The plans were equally meritorious and contained provisions for many excellent features which showed that Mr. Wakefield had given the matter very careful study. His price, however, was \$288,500, and as this was over \$7000 in excess of the Pacific Construction Company's bid, Messrs. Holmes, Bihler, and myself recommended that the latter company's bid be accepted by the Board."

"The Pacific Construction Company's plans provided for the use of the latest improved pattern and contained an alternative plan for a crib-pivot table which we have used in the bridge."

"Good Bridge at Fair Profit."

"The company has carried out its contract in every particular and gives us a good bridge, making a fair profit on the deal."

"Regarding Mr. Bihler's charge that the Pacific Construction Company made a profit of \$15,000 on the substitution of steel stringers for wooden ones and channels, I feel that he is slightly in error."

"The substitution of the stringers does not come under the head of 'extras' and therefore the clause in the specifications which governs the estimate of 'extras' at 15 per cent, and the cost of materials and labor, cannot be applied to the change of construction."

"The original specifications permitted the Board to authorize this change, and as long as we were building a steel bridge, I personally recommended the substitution."

"The transaction," said Mr. Elliott, "taking a letter from the files, 'was by a legitimate bid from the Pacific Construction Company. Here is the bid.'"

"The bid was contained in a communication to Mr. Elliott from the Pacific Construction Company in which they agreed to place 60,000 pounds of steel, substituting the wood for the sum of \$27,170."

"Says Bihler is Mistaken."

"That estimate," continued Mr. Elliott, "was figured according to the basis of figuring adopted in the original proposal of the company. The difference between their figures and Mr. Bihler's is easily explained. Mr. Bihler is a very capable engineer and a man whose word cannot be questioned, but he has made a mistake which any of us is likely to make."

"His figures are based upon the current prices of steel existing at that time, and they naturally differ from the figures of the Pacific Construction Company, which are based the same as the original figuring. I have no doubt but what the matter will be amicably settled in the near future."

TO HOLD G. A. R. CONVENTION

Oregon and Washington Departments Will Meet at Exposition.

Assistant Adjutant-General G. E. Callahan, of the Department of Oregon, G. A. R., is arranging for a G. A. R. day at the Lewis and Clark Fair. At the last encampment held at Hood River it was decided to hold the next encampment at Oregon City, June 20, 21 and 22, and the same dates have been adopted by the grand encampment of Washington, to be held in Vancouver.

It is desired to bring together the encampments of the Oregon and Washington departments, Friday, June 22, the day following adjournment of the Oregon and Washington encampments at the Lewis and Clark Fair ground. There are good prospects that this can be accomplished.

BASKET COLLECTORS.

All of the B. B. Rich Collection for Sale at Your Figure.

My entire collection of Indian baskets are for sale, either the entire lot or singly. I must vacate, as I have sold my lease, come and make me an offer on any basket or articles you want, and if the price is anywhere within reason I will take it. What I do know is that I have to get out, and I want to realize, and no reasonable offer will be refused on any article in the Curie Store, 125 Sixth street.

Burnett's Extract of Vanilla is the leader all the world over. Use no other.

Every Article in the Establishment is Greatly Reduced The Meier & Frank Store's Great Annual Clearance Sale

Started off yesterday with Holiday throngs in attendance—in every department the spirited buying and the crowds of enthusiastic shoppers reminded one of Christmas week—They found spread before them a bargain feast never before equalled in the history of Portland retailing—Mammoth stocks of high grade merchandise—Everything Women, Men and Children wear—Everything in housekeeping effects—Marked at prices that mean a saving of a quarter, a third, a half in many instances more—Seasonable and staple Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Millinery, Men's Furnishings, Books, Stationery, Crockery, Silverware, Carpets, Etc., Etc., in short every article in the establishment will be found reduced—Sale continues daily until further notice—Mail orders will receive full benefit of Clearance prices

Clearance Sale Prices on Every Garment Portland's Leading Cloak Store

Portland's Largest and Leading Cloak Store presents for your choosing the only complete garment stock in the city—Suits, Costumes, Wraps, Raincoats, Tourist Coats, Skirts, Waists, Petticoats, Etc.—Stylish apparel in magnificent variety—All this season's newest and best fashions and materials in unbroken assortment—Satisfactory garments at Clearance Sale Prices—Everybody knows this big cloak store of ours so thoroughly that details are unnecessary to attract buyers—Yesterday's response fairly swamped us—A dozen extra saleswomen will help to give everyone prompt attention today—We promise the best values in town to women having garment needs to supply—And in addition to the superior values you'll find assortment three times as great as any display hereabouts—All that we ask is that you look here before buying elsewhere—Second Floor



All Evening Costumes and Wraps have been marked at ridiculously low prices. If you have need for a beautiful Theater or Carriage Wrap, you can save half on its value during the Clearance Sale, which starts today.

1500 New Tourist Coats at Clearance Sale Prices

1500 Tourist Coats, all 1904-05 fashions; handsomest materials, many styles, all prices. Our entire stock of Furs marked at exceptionally low Clearance prices.

2000 New Cravenettes at Clearance Sale Prices

2000 handsome new Raincoats in the latest styles and best materials are included in the great Annual Clearance Sale; all sizes; immense variety. Prices range from \$8.98 to \$50.

Clearance Sale Prices Prevail on the Following

- Kid Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Ribbons at Clearance Prices
Laces, Embroideries, Dress Trimmings at Clearance Prices
Silks, Dress Goods and Black Goods at Clearance Prices
Knit Underwear and Hosiery on Sale at Clearance Prices
Ginghams, Calicoes and Percales, Etc. at Clearance Prices
Linens, White Goods and Flannels at Clearance Prices
Leather Goods and Umbrellas on Sale at Clearance Prices
Notions, Linings and Toilet Goods at Clearance Prices
Books and Stationery, First Floor, at Clearance Prices
Women's, Men's, Children's Shoes at Clearance Prices
Men's Furnishings, Hats, Hosiery, Underwear, Hdks, Etc.
Pictures and Art Goods on Sale Now at Clearance Prices
Carpets and Rugs, Third Floor, at Clearance Sale Prices
Lace Curtains, Curtain Materials at Clearance Sale Prices
Blankets and Comforters Now at Clearance Sale Prices
Our Entire Stock of Millinery at Clearance Sale Prices
Men's and Boys' Clothing, 2d Floor, at Clearance Prices
Infant's Wear and Corsets on Sale at Clearance Prices
Trunks and Traveling Bags on Sale at Clearance Prices
All Children's Garments Now on Sale at Clearance Prices
Veilings and Handkerchiefs Now at Clearance Sale Prices
Jewelry and Fancy Goods on Sale at Clearance Prices
Women's Neckwear in Great Variety at Clearance Prices
Fancy China and Glassware, Basement, at Clearance Prices
Cutlery and Silverware, Basement, at Clearance Prices
"Peninsular" Stoves and Ranges at Clearance Prices
"Willamette" Sewing Machines at Clearance Sale Prices
Toys, Dolls, Games and Wagons at Clearance Sale Prices
Tinware, Woodenware, Kitchen Goods at Clearance Prices
Lamps and Bric-a-Brac, Basement, at Clearance Prices
Artistic Picture-Framing, 2d Floor, at Clearance Prices

Portland's Greatest Carpet Store

Up in Portland's greatest carpet store the Clearance Sale prices are of great importance to economical housekeepers—Everything in Carpets, Rugs, Linoleums, Mattings, Curtains, Table Covers, Curtain Materials, etc., marked down to the manufacturers' figures—Workroom facilities for caring for any amount of orders promptly—Note these values:

- Melrose Ingrains, best patterns, 65c value, for—yard.....45c
2-Ply All-Wool Filling, clearing price—yard.....72c
All-Wool extra heavy, extra super, 2-ply, 1 grade, yard.....81c
80c Linoleum, elastic finish, square yard, 68c; 90c Linoleum, 81c square yard; \$1.60 Inlaid Linoleum, neat designs, \$1.35 square yard; \$1.75 Linoleum, \$1.58 square yard.
85c quality Smith's Hotel Brussels Carpets, yard.....77c
\$1.00 quality Brussels, with or without borders, yard.....85c
\$1.25 Windsor Brussels, will not fade, yard.....\$1.05
Prosaic Velvets, the best Wool Velvet on the market, yard.....\$1.35
\$1.75 Royal Axminsters, elegant assortment of patterns, yard.....\$1.44
Bigelow Axminsters, extra fine quality, \$2.10 value, yard.....\$1.89



Men's Wear

Men's Clothing and Furnishing Goods at Clearance prices: Every article with the exception of E. & W. Collars, Cluett Collars, Monarch Shirts and Hawes Hats. Here are a few of the extra special values we are offering: Men's 50c and 75c English Squares and Four-in-Hands, best quality silks, handsome pattern.....39c
Japonet Silk Initial Handkerchiefs, 15c values, each.....10c
Unlaundered White Shirts, New York Mills muslin, front and back reinforced, all sizes, each.....40c
All 50c Suspenders, pair.....39c
All 25c Hosiery, pair.....20c
Men's heavy fleeced ribbed Underwear.....39c

Millinery Clearance Sale

Our entire stock of Trimmed Hats at half price and less; not a Hat in reserve; every one included—
2.50 Hats.....75c
4 Hats.....\$1.95
6.00 Hats.....\$2.95
8 Hats.....\$3.95
10.00 Hats.....\$4.95
12 Hats.....\$5.95
15.00 Hats.....\$6.95
20 Hats.....\$9.95
25.00 Hats.....\$15.00
Women's and Children's Beaver Hats, \$6 values, \$1.50; \$2.50 values, at each.....80c
Special lot of Infants' Wool Bonnets, at each.....10c
Special lot of Children's Tam o'Shanter, at each.....10c
300 ready-to-wear Hats, values up to \$2.50 each, on sale for.....25c
Ostrich Plumes, Fancy Feathers, Jet Trimming, Braids, etc., all marked at ridiculously low clearance prices.



The Great "White Fair" 50,000 Pieces of New Undermuslins

50000 pieces of dainty new undermuslins included in this mid-winter "White Fair"—Gowns, Corset Covers, Skirts, Chemise, Drawers—beautiful styles—immense variety—best materials—Splendidly made muslin underwear—No skimping in material or trimmings—The best product of America's leading muslin underwear factories—Not a single sweat-shop garment in the entire lot—Prices in every instance will be found the very lowest—Second Floor



- Women's long skirt Petticoats of nainsook, cambric and lawn, dainty lace and embroidery trimmings, also plain hemstitched. 47c, 60c, 70c, 80c, \$1.20 Up to \$5.50.
NIGHT GOWNS Women's Gowns made of fine cambric, muslin and nainsook, trimmed in dainty lace, embroidery, insertion, tucks, hemstitching, beadings and ribbons; high, V, square and round necks. Great Values at 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, \$1.20, \$1.40, \$1.80, \$2.12, \$2.20, \$2.40, \$2.80 Up to \$30.00.
Complete line of extra size Gowns, Drawers, Chemise and Corset Covers; hand-embroidered French Lingerie at sale prices.
6500 PETTICOATS Cambric, nainsook and muslin Long Skirts, with full flounces, trimmed in clusters of tucks, insertions, lace and embroidery, also plain hemstitched flounces; big, full sizes, all have separate dust ruffles; an immense variety of new styles. 60c, 87c, 98c, \$1.23, \$1.48, \$1.52 Up to \$35.00
CORSET COVERS Women's fine nainsook, cambric and lawn Corset Covers, trimmed in clusters of tucks, lace and embroidery edgings, insertions, beadings, ribbons, blouse fronts, trimmed and plain backs, round, square, V and high necks; an immense display at 22c, 28c, 43c, 48c, 72c Up to \$15.00
HANDSOME CHEMISE Beautiful long and short Chemise of fine nainsook, cambric and lawn, trimmed with dainty embroidery, laces, beadings, ribbon and tucks; great special values at 22c, 30c, 47c, 60c, 82c Up to \$15.00.
WOMEN'S DRAWERS Cambric, nainsook and muslin Drawers, trimmed in fine laces, tucks, insertions, beadings and ribbons, full flounce and plain hemstitched— 22c, 43c, 48c Up to \$12.00.
Misses and children's Muslin Underwear—Gowns, Petticoats, Drawers are all marked at clearance prices. Second Floor.

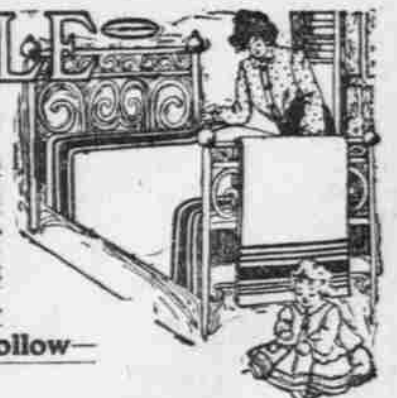
Beautiful French Undermuslins at Clearance Sale Prices Infants and Children's White Dresses at Clearance Prices

BLANKET SALE

Blankets and Comforters marked at rock-bottom prices—Warm bed coverings of recognized quality, weight and style—Our entire stock included in the great sweeping Clearance Sale reductions—A few of the extra-special values follow—Third Floor

- 10-4 White Wool Blankets, with colored borders, great special value, pr. \$3.83
Three great special lots of full-size Comforters, laminated cotton filled, great values at \$1.07, \$1.29, \$1.70.
All our high-grade Silk and Sateen-covered Comforters are marked at Clearance Sale prices. Third Floor.

- \$7.00 extra large All-Wool White Blankets, colored borders, grand values, pair.....\$5.55
Full size fine California Blankets, mottled gray, great special value, pr.....\$4.63
White and Gray Wool Blankets, extra heavy, full size, great value, pr.....\$1.95
Entire stock of Blankets up to \$27.50 a pair are all greatly reduced.



Clearance Sale of Fine Shoes

- BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S SHOES. Odds and ends of Infants' Shoes, kid and patent leather, \$1.25 and \$1.50 values, at the low price of 49c
900 pairs Little Gentle box calf and kid kid Shoes, all sizes at—pair.....\$1.12
Boys' and Youths' Shoes, great values—during clearance sale.....\$1.30
\$4 SHOES FOR \$2.15 PAIR.
200 pairs of Women's \$3.50 and \$4.00 Shoes, J. & T. Cousins famous make, kid lace style only, broken sizes; your choice at the low price of.....\$2.18
MEN'S \$4 SHOES \$2.65 PAIR.
400 pairs of Men's Goodyear welt lace and Blucher Shoes, box calf, vic kid, patent colt, velour calf, \$2.50 and \$4.00 value, for—pair.....\$2.65
800 pairs of Women's \$3.00 Shoes, vic kid, box calf, patent colt, lace and Blucher styles, light and heavy soles, kid or patent tip, all sizes, every pair Johnson Bros. famous make; clearance sale price.....\$1.73
100.....\$2.50 SHOES FOR 98c PAIR.
600 pairs of Women's vic kid lace and button Shoes, spring heel and low heel, \$2.50 values, for—pair.....98c
\$2.50 TO \$5.00 SLIPPERS 98c PAIR.
Women's fancy Dress Slippers in kid and patent leather, broken lots, odd sizes, \$2.50 to \$5.00 values—pair.....98c
MISSES' SHOES \$1.00 PAIR.
Misses' Dongola Lace Shoes, heavy sole, also kangaroo calf, lace and button styles, sizes 1 1/2 to 2; great values at the low price of.....\$1.09

Linens, Towels, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Cottons

Clearance Sale at the Meier & Frank Store means hundreds of money-saving opportunities for the housewife, hotel and boarding-house keeper. The greatest stocks of fine Table Linens (John S. Brown & Sons'), Cottons, Sheetings, Towels, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bedspreads, Bath Towels, etc., all at exceptionally low prices. Cotton Piece Goods Ginghams, Percales, Calicoes, White Goods, Nainsooks, Swisses, India Linens, etc., all are being offered at Clearance prices.